



Merriwether Middle

430 Murrah Road
North Augusta, South

Grades	6-8 Middle School	
Enrollment	424 Students	
Principal	Bobby Turner	803-279-2511
Superintendent	Dr. Mary Rice-Crenshaw	803-275-4601
Board Chair	Sallie B. Cooks	803-663-6539

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2009 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
2009	Average	Average
2008	Average	Below Average
2007	Average	At-Risk
2006	Average	Good
2005	Good	Below Average

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

- Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- At-Risk – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL

By 2010, SC's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE VISION

By 2020 all students will graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete successfully in the global economy, participate in a democratic society and contribute positively as members of families and communities.

Percent of Student PASS Records Matched for Purpose of Computing Growth Rating

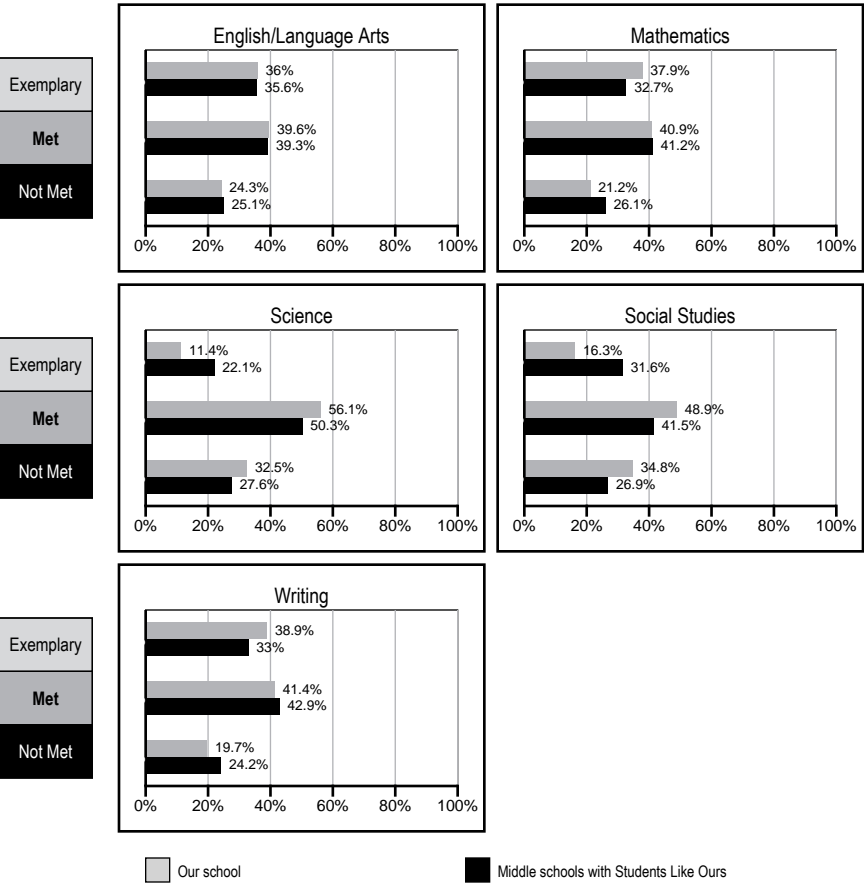
Percent of students tested in 2008-09 whose 2007-08 test scores were located | 92.8%

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
2	13	26	0	0

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 06/01/2010.

Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (PASS)



* Middle schools with Students Like Ours are middle schools with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for the school.

Definition of Critical Terms

Exemplary	"Exemplary" means the student demonstrated exemplary performance in meeting the grade level standard.
Met	"Met" means the student met the grade level standard.
Not Met	"Not Met" means that the student did not meet the grade level standard.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A–Not Applicable N/AV–Not Available N/C–Not Collected N/R–Not Reported I/S–Insufficient Sample

End of Course Tests

Percent of tests with scores of 70 or above on:	Our Middle School	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	100.0%	98.3%
English 1	95.1%	98.0%
Physical Science	N/A	100.0%
US History and the Constitution	N/A	N/A
All Subjects	97.5%	98.0%

School Profile

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n=424)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	49.1%	Up from 16.5%	22.6%	21.6%
Retention rate	1.0%	Down from 2.5%	0.9%	1.2%
Attendance rate	95.9%	Down from 96.6%	96.0%	95.9%
Eligible for gifted and talented	16.4%	Down from 21.3%	19.7%	14.8%
With disabilities other than speech	12.7%	Up from 11.5%	11.3%	12.6%
Older than usual for grade	5.0%	Down from 5.7%	1.6%	2.5%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	1.2%	Up from 1.0%	0.5%	0.6%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=27)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	44.4%	Down from 48.1%	56.1%	56.9%
Continuing contract teachers	81.5%	Down from 88.9%	76.0%	72.7%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	4.5%	Up from 0.0%	4.8%	5.3%
Teachers returning from previous year	88.2%	Up from 87.5%	85.7%	82.9%
Teacher attendance rate	94.5%	No Change	95.2%	95.2%
Average teacher salary*	\$44,317	Up 3.6%	\$46,873	\$46,599
Professional development days/teacher	6.7 days	Down from 11.4 days	10.6 days	10.8 days
School				
Principal's years at school	2.0	Up from 1.0	3.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	22.9 to 1	Up from 20.8 to 1	21.9 to 1	20.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	89.6%	Down from 89.8%	89.9%	89.9%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	94.9%	Down from 99.9%	99.1%	97.8%
Character development program	Average	Down from Good	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$7,089	Down 1.7%	\$6,845	\$7,645
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	59.1%	Up from 58.3%	65.3%	63.4%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	58.1%	Up from 56.8%	57.0%	57.0%

* Includes current year teachers contracted for 185 or more days.

** Prior year audited financial data are reported.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A--Not Applicable N/AV--Not Available N/C--Not Collected N/R--Not Reported I/S--Insufficient Sample

Report of Principal and School Improvement Council

Merriwether Middle School is located in rural Edgefield County and serves approximately 420 sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students from various economic and ethnic backgrounds. At Merriwether Middle School, we believe that all students should be provided with opportunities for successful experiences. We strive to offer a curriculum that maximizes the intellectual, emotional, social, and physical development of our emerging adolescents. We understand the unique needs and concerns of young adolescents as well as the developmental challenges of this age group. Our curriculum is designed to assist our middle school students through the transitional period between elementary school and high school. Every student attends five academic classes and two exploratory classes taught daily by highly qualified teachers. Exploratory classes include band, music, art, physical education, technology, keyboarding, computer-assisted instruction, and reading and math enrichment. English 1, Algebra 1, Band 1, and Keyboarding are offered to eighth grade students for high school credit.

The 2008-09 school year brought noteworthy recognition of many academic achievements attained by Merriwether Middle School students. These milestones validate the efforts of both our teachers and students in the pursuit of excellence. Twenty eighth grade students were recognized as Junior Scholars. Our Mathcounts team finished fifth in the region. Our Science Eco-Meet team placed fourth overall in the CSRA regional competition and 1st place in the categories of "Aging and Tracking Deer" and "Turkey Biology." The Merriwether Honor Band received a Superior rating in the SCBDA-Concert Festival and in the Carowinds Music Festival. Also, 3 students were selected for the SCBDA All-State Region 2 Band. 100% of students enrolled passed the End-Of-Course Algebra 1 test, and 97% of students passed the End-Of-Course English 1 test and will receive high school credit. In addition, MMS had a state winner in the DAR Essay contest and a student who received state recognition in the Duke TIP Program. Four sixth grade students attended the Junior National Young Leaders Conference in Washington, D.C.

Technology has been upgraded with the completion of the installation of Promethean Boards and LCD Projectors in all academic classrooms. An innovative MP Squared program was also introduced to sixty 6th grade students.

All students and faculty members participated in monthly club meetings. The Beta Club, Yearbook Staff, WMMS daily news show, and various volunteer organizations highlight positive student involvement in school activities that included "Wheelchair Basketball," Pumpkin Decorating, and Easter Egg Hunts.

We welcome your input and participation in all aspects of the educational process. Your support and cooperation will ensure that our students continue to meet and exceed all challenges presented to them.

Bobby R. Turner, Principal
Robin Ball, SIC Chair

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	25	122	56
Percent satisfied with learning environment	96.0%	62.5%	82.1%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	96.0%	55.8%	85.7%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	84.0%	80.3%	78.2%

* Only students at the highest middle school grade level and their parents were included.

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School Adequate Yearly Progress

NO

This school met 17 out of 21 objectives. The objectives included student performance, graduation rate or student attendance, and participation in the state testing program.

Definition: As required by the United States Department of Education, Adequate Yearly Progress specifies that the statewide target is met for "All Students" and for the following subgroups: Racial/Ethnic, Subsidized Meals, Disability, and Limited English Proficiency in the areas of English/Language Arts and Mathematics, as well as meeting the statewide target for "All Students" for attendance or graduation rate.

School Improvement Status

School Improvement Key	
NI	Newly Identified-The school missed adequate yearly progress (AYP) for two years. Sanction: Offer school choice.
CSI	Continuing School Improvement-The school missed AYP for three years. Sanctions: Continue school choice and implement supplemental services.
CA	Corrective Action-The school missed AYP for four years. Sanction: Continue school choice and supplemental services. The school district takes a corrective action.
RP	Plan to Restructure-Sanctions: Continue school choice and supplemental services. Develop a plan to restructure. If the school misses AYP the next year, the school implements the restructuring plan.
R	Restructure-The school missed AYP after two years of corrective action. Sanctions: Implement the restructuring plan. Continue school choice and supplemental services.
DELAY	The school met AYP in all subgroups and the indicator for one year, thus the delay provision applies. The school remains in the same status as last year and is referred to as in "Delay."
HOLD	The school made progress for one year in the subject area that identified the school for school improvement. The school remains in the same status as last year and is referred to as in "Hold."

Teacher Quality and Student Attendance			
	Our District		State
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	1.6%		1.7%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	N/A		5.8%
	Our School	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	1.5%	0.0%	No
Student attendance rate	95.9%	94.0%*	Yes

* Or greater than last year

PASS Performance By Group

	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Not Met	% Met	% Exemplary	School % Met or Exemplary*	District % Met or Exemplary*	State % Met or Exemplary*	Performance Objective Met	Participation Objective Met
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English/Language Arts - State Performance Objective = 58.8% (Met or Exemplary)

All Students	420	99.1	25	40.1	34.9	84.2	85.4	82.8	Yes	Yes
Gender										
Male	218	99.1	30.6	40.2	29.2	78.9	82	79.3	N/A	N/A
Female	202	99	19	40	41	89.7	89.2	86.5	N/A	N/A
Racial/Ethnic Group										
White	309	99	20.9	39.4	39.7	87.1	90.7	89.5	Yes	Yes
African American	102	99	37.9	42.1	20	74.7	78.9	73.7	Yes	Yes
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	92.3	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	7	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	84.6	76.5	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	1	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	82.5	I/S	I/S
Disability Status										
Disabled	57	94.7	71.2	13.5	15.4	50	53.4	52	No	No
Migrant Status										
Migrant	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	66.1	N/A	N/A
English Proficiency										
Limited English Proficient	3	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	83.3	75.1	I/S	I/S
Socio-Economic Status										
Subsided meals	175	98.3	35	41.7	23.3	73.6	79.4	75.5	Yes	Yes

Mathematics - State Performance Objective = 57.8% (Met or Exemplary)

All Students	420	99.1	23	44.8	32.2	84.7	79.8	78.9	Yes	Yes
Gender										
Male	218	99.1	30.1	41.6	28.2	80.4	78.4	77	N/A	N/A
Female	202	99	15.4	48.2	36.4	89.2	81.3	80.9	N/A	N/A
Racial/Ethnic Group										
White	309	99	20.2	43.4	36.4	86.4	87.8	87.2	Yes	Yes
African American	102	99	32.6	47.4	20	78.9	70.2	66.7	Yes	Yes
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	93	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	7	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	76.9	76	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	1	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	79.5	I/S	I/S
Disability Status										
Disabled	57	94.7	69.2	17.3	13.5	42.3	45.9	45.5	No	No
Migrant Status										
Migrant	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	75.7	N/A	N/A
English Proficiency										
Limited English Proficient	3	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	66.7	76.1	I/S	I/S
Socio-Economic Status										
Subsided meals	175	98.3	30.7	48.5	20.9	78.5	72.5	70.2	Yes	Yes

* Adjusted to account for natural variation in performance.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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PASS Performance By Group

	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Not Met	% Met	% Exemplary	School % Met or Exemplary	District % Met or Exemplary	State % Met or Exemplary
Science								
All Students	279	99.6	32	55.9	12.1	68	65.8	67.5
Gender								
Male	145	99.3	36.9	48.9	14.2	63.1	65.3	67
Female	134	100	26.7	63.4	9.9	73.3	66.4	68
Racial/Ethnic Group								
White	205	100	28.7	56.4	14.9	71.3	76.7	79.5
African American	67	98.5	43.1	52.3	4.6	56.9	53	50.3
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	84.3
Hispanic	5	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	75	60.7
American Indian/Alaskan	1	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	71.2
Disability Status								
Disabled	41	97.6	66.7	20.5	12.8	33.3	32.4	35.6
Migrant Status								
Migrant	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	46.1
English Proficiency								
Limited English Proficient	2	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	58.3	59.6
Socio-Economic Status								
Subsided meals	120	99.2	42.2	50	7.8	57.8	54.4	55.1

Social Studies

All Students	276	100	34.8	48.9	16.3	65.2	69.4	72.3
Gender								
Male	137	100	30.8	49.6	19.5	69.2	71.1	71.5
Female	139	100	38.7	48.2	13.1	61.3	67.5	73.2
Racial/Ethnic Group								
White	209	100	30.3	51	18.8	69.7	77.7	80.7
African American	61	100	50.9	42.1	7	49.1	60.1	60
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	88.5
Hispanic	5	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	58.1	68
American Indian/Alaskan	1	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	72.2
Disability Status								
Disabled	28	100	67.9	28.6	3.6	32.1	40.7	43.5
Migrant Status								
Migrant	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	50.7
English Proficiency								
Limited English Proficient	2	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	38.9	67.9
Socio-Economic Status								
Subsided meals	111	100	49.5	39	11.4	50.5	60.1	62.1

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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PASS Performance By Group

	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Not Met	% Met	% Exemplary	School % Met or Exemplary	District % Met or Exemplary	State % Met or Exemplary	School Attendance Rate	District Attendance Rate
Writing										
All Students	421	98.6	19.7	41.4	38.9	80.3	73.7	70.2	95.9	96.3
Gender										
Male	219	98.2	26.7	43.3	30	73.3	66.8	63.2	95.9	96.1
Female	202	99	12.2	39.3	48.5	87.8	81.4	77.5	95.9	96.5
Racial/Ethnic Group										
White	312	98.7	17.8	39.3	42.9	82.2	80.9	79.1	95.7	96
African American	101	98	26	46.9	27.1	74	65.1	57.6	96.9	96.6
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	86.2	N/A	96.5
Hispanic	6	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	69.2	62.6	96.7	97
American Indian/Alaskan	1	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	68.7	76.1	88.1
Disability Status										
Disabled	55	90.9	66.7	22.9	10.4	33.3	30.5	26.1	95.2	95.2
Migrant Status										
Migrant	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	54.7	N/A	97.1
English Proficiency										
Limited English Proficient	3	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	61.9	61.2	98.1	97.6
Socio-Economic Status										
Subsidized meals	174	97.1	27	46	27	73	65.3	58.9	95.2	96

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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PASS Performance By Grade Level

	Grade	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Not Met	% Met	% Exemplary	% Met or Exemplary
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English/Language Arts

2009	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	135	99.3	25.6	39.5	34.9	74.4
	7	139	100	22.5	39.1	38.4	77.5
	8	146	98	27	41.6	31.4	73

Mathematics

2009	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	135	99.3	24.8	46.5	28.7	75.2
	7	139	100	18.8	48.6	32.6	81.2
	8	146	98	25.5	39.4	35	74.5

Science

2009	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	69	98.6	28.8	57.6	13.6	71.2
	7	139	100	33.3	60.9	5.8	66.7
	8	71	100	32.4	44.1	23.5	67.6

Social Studies

2009	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	65	100	22.2	66.7	11.1	77.8
	7	139	100	47.1	41.3	11.6	52.9
	8	72	100	21.7	47.8	30.4	78.3

Writing

2009	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	136	100	22.9	41.2	35.9	77.1
	7	140	100	17.3	40.3	42.4	82.7
	8	145	95.9	19.1	42.6	38.2	80.9

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N/R--Not Reported

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